AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 82-83 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1 and 59. Please add new claims 92-93. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid compound ~~comprising a nucleotide sequence of~~ between 20 and 35 nucleotides in length, which is 100% complementary to a region of an EphB4 transcript sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 392, ~~and~~ wherein the nucleic acid compound decreases expression of EphB4 in a cell, and wherein the nucleic acid compound is an antisense nucleic acid compound comprising one or more modified backbone or base moieties~~, and wherein the modified antisense nucleic acid comprises at least one 2' O-alkylated ribonucleotide~~.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the region is in the coding sequence of the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 392.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound is single-stranded.

8. (Original) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound is double-stranded.

9. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound is a DNA molecule.

10. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound is a RNA molecule.

11. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound comprises a DNA strand and a RNA strand.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid compound comprises a sequence as forth in SEQ ID NO: 231.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid compound has at least one internucleotide linkage selected from the group consisting of alkylphosphonates, phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, alkylphosphonothioates, phosphoramidates, phosphate esters, carbamates, acetamidate, carboxylmethyl esters, carbonates, and phosphate triesters.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid compound is an RNAi construct.

19. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 18, wherein the RNAi construct is a dsRNA, optionally comprising one or more modified backbone or base moieties.

20. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 18, wherein the RNAi construct is a hairpin RNA, optionally comprising one or more modified backbone or base moieties.

21. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 18, wherein the duplex portion of the RNAi construct is from about 21 to about 23 nucleotides in length.

22. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 18, wherein the RNAi construct comprises an RNA strand having a sequence selected from the sequences as forth in SEQ ID NOs: 233-290, optionally comprising one or more modified backbone or base moieties.

23. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 18, wherein the RNAi construct comprises one or more backbone or base moieties.

24. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 23, wherein the modified RNAi construct has at least one internucleotide linkage selected from the group consisting of alkylphosphonates, phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, alkylphosphonothioates,

phosphoramidates, phosphate esters, carbamates, acetamidate, carboxylmethyl esters, carbonates, and phosphate triesters.

25. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid compound of claim 24, wherein the modified RNAi construct comprises at least a 2'-O-alkylated ribonucleotide.

26-58. (Canceled)

59. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid compound and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the nucleic acid compound ~~comprises a nucleotide sequence of~~ is between 20 and 35 nucleotides in length and ~~which~~ is 100% complementary to a region of an EphB4 transcript sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 392, wherein the nucleic acid compound ~~and~~ decreases expression of EphB4 in a cell, and wherein the nucleic acid compound is an antisense nucleic acid compound comprising one or more modified backbone or base moieties~~, and wherein the modified antisense nucleic acid comprises at least one 2'-O-alkylated ribonucleotide~~.

60. (Canceled)

61. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting EphB4 expression in a cell, comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of the nucleic acid compound of claim 1.

62. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein the nucleic acid compound is selected from the group consisting of: an RNAi construct and an antisense nucleic acid compound.

63-64. (Canceled)

65. (Withdrawn) A method of reducing the growth rate of a tumor in a subject, comprising administering an amount of a nucleic acid compound sufficient to reduce the growth rate of the tumor, wherein the nucleic acid compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphB4 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphB4 in a cell; and

(b) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphrinB2 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphrinB2 in a cell.

66. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 65, wherein the tumor comprises one or more cancer cells expressing EphB4 and/or EphrinB2.

67. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from a cancer, comprising administering to the patient a nucleic acid moclecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphB4 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphB4 in a cell; and

(b) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphrinB2 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphrinB2 in a cell.

68. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the nucleic acid compound is an antisense nucleic acid compound.

69. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the nucleic acid compound is an RNAi construct.

70. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the nucleic acid compound is formulated with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

71. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the cancer cell expresses a higher level of EphB4 compared to a noncancerous cell from a comparable tissue.

72. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the cancer cell expresses a higher level of Ephrin B2 compared to a noncancerous cell from a comparable tissue.

73. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the tumor is a metastatic tumor.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the tumor is seleted from the group consisting of colon carcinoma, breast tumor, mesothelioma, prostate tumor, squamous cell carcinoma, Kaposi sarcoma, and leukemia.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the tumor is an angiogenesis-dependent tumor.

76. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein the tumor is an angiogenesis-independent tumor.

77. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, further including at least one additional anti-cancer chemotherapeutic agent that inhibits cancer cells in an additive or synergistic manner with the nucleic acid compound.

78. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from an angiogenesis-associated disease, comprising administering to the patient an amount of a nucleic acid compound sufficient to inhibit angiogenesis, wherein the nucleic acid compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphB4 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphB4 in a cell; and

(b) a nucleic acid compound that hybridizes to an EphrinB2 transcript under physiological conditions and decreases the expression of EphrinB2 in a cell.

79. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid compound is an antisense nucleic acid compound.

80. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid compound is an RNAi construct.

81. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid compound is formulated with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

82-91. (Canceled)

92. (New) The nucleic acid compound of claim 1, wherein the antisense nucleic acid comprises at least one 2'-O-alkylated ribonucleotide.

93. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 59, wherein the antisense nucleic acid comprises at least one 2'-O-alkylated ribonucleotide.